

CLASSIFICATION

WASHINTON, D.C.

REPORT NO.

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/11/21 : CIA-RDP80-00809A000500840179-9  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

180696

COUNTRY: Poland

DATE DISTR. 8 April 1948

SUBJECT: PPR Policy Toward the Polish Church

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED: 

25X1

NO. OF ENCL. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE ACQUIRED: 

25X1

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES. IT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S. OF 51 AND 71, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED. HOWEVER, INFORMATION CONTAINED IN BODY OF THIS FORM MAY BE UTILIZED AS NEEDED NECESSARY BY THE RECEIVING AGENCY.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

25X1

The following  is an answer to the stand taken by the Polish Clergy and defines the policy of the PPR toward the Church in Poland.

1. The letter of the Polish Bishops is an offense to the Polish Nation. This is the reward one gets from parasites, who consume the Polish bread sit, on fat parishes and without any scruples act as agents of the Vatican. Under cover of fighting for Christianity, the clergy of Poland is breaking the unity of the nation, undermining the authority of the People's State and trying to incite hatred toward the PPR. It is in our own interest to stop the poisoning of the hearts and minds of Polish youth with this Catholic nonsense. The Church often protests our treatment of our political opponents. But is the Church acting otherwise? Were not the Jesuits, politically motivated, the murderers of their own enemies and those of the Church? The essence of every science and religion is God and Eternity. Different religions define God in different ways. Religion and God are two different things. If a country bases its existence on the principle of sovereignty, it cannot live in agreement with the Church, because the Church forms a state within the state. The policy of the Church, its moral principles and the laws of the Church conflict with a People's state. The Church is a thing of the past; it needs far reaching changes to be able to remain in existence.
2. The religion of our times is the Marxist philosophy. In it the poor and injured are looking for hope and refuge from the might of this world; the mighty are blessed by the Pope and supported by Catholicism.
3. The Marxist philosophy has more staunch followers and self-sacrificing fighters than the Catholic religion. The martyrs of our times are the followers of Marx. Do we see today any priests or Catholics willing to die collectively in defense of the principles they preach? No! This means that Catholicism has ceased to be a living religion; it has ceased to educate, to create new values. In contrast look at the sea of blood shed by the Marxists in Greece, in Spain, or in the fight against Hitler in the U.S.S.R., Poland, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary.
4. A true religion should see God in the human being, in his happiness, family life, social relations and national endeavors. The highest idea of God was developed by the Jews, who are the most coherent and united nation on earth.

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	NAVY	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION					
ARMY	AIR							

REFERENCE CENTER LIBRARY

CONFIDENTIAL

20500840179-9

180606

6. Christianity was created by a Jew, just as Marxism, but it has been distorted by the Popes, the successors of the Roman Emperors.
6. The Church is the seed of obscurantism. Whomsoever a Catholic tries to go beyond the well-trod channels of dogmatic thinking and endeavors to find a truth different from that preached by the priests, he is proclaimed a heretic. Modern times and the future bring different truths and doctrines. Humanity no longer tends to believe blindly. The human brain is searching for new laws and dogmas. The atom has been split; a further search is under way. The Churches, which are trying to enslave human thought, must fall. just as many other religious systems, less well organized, have fallen. The voice of the people has been and always shall be the voice of God.
7. The voice of the people has for centuries been a voice of revolt and despair; the Church has never listened to it. At last, we the Marxists heard it! The will of the people has become our own will and we believe that it is also the will of God. The Vatican means everything to the clergy; the State can be an instrument only. The Church fears the new Polish People's Democracy. Today's representatives of the Church have nothing in common with Christ, who worked among the people and for the people. A clear-cut question should be asked: "What is more important? An abstract idea of God, or a definite idea, such as the Nation?" For Marxists the choice is easy and clear.
8. For a Church theoretician naturally God will be put above the Nation. That is the so-called theocratic system, very convenient for members of the Church, but very selfish and misleading. We Marxists believe that one who has no sympathy for the people with whom he associates and who support him cannot have a real feeling for God. Care of the poor used to be one of the basic principles of the Christian religion. "Whatever you do for one of my poorest in my name, you will do for me", said Our Lord and the Holy Scripture, one of the most intelligent books ever written.
9. We Marxists are putting the State and the Nation above the Church. We are deeply convinced that, while serving our People's Democracy and the poorest people of our Nation, we are not acting against the will of God, although we do act against the desires of the Vatican and of the Clergy of Poland. We do not consider ourselves fighting against God when we try to abolish the Church administration, which is officially and illegally trying to undermine the foundations of the Polish State.
10. Today the Polish Nation follows the pattern of its historical past, by determining its own life, both in the spiritual and materialistic sphere, by trying to attain a better position in the world.
11. This march toward a better future is being hampered by reactionary forces, linked to the past and headed by the Catholic Church, which fears that it will lose its golden treasures and the masses of followers from among the working and the peasant classes.
12. No wonder that the simple man, who sees the Church's false and hostile attitude toward him and knows that his desires and wishes will not be heard, is getting farther and farther away from the Church. The mass of the faithful is composed of lay people, whose obedience is based on ignorance. These lay people are today quite different than they were before World War II. They are free, more enlightened and willing to progress. They will not let themselves be blindly led by the Church.
13. There are many people in Poland who, although Catholic, feel a great animosity toward the Catholic Clergy and could easily be led in the fight against the Church. Most of the Catholics do not live up to the principles of the Church. Their Catholicism is limited to the acceptance of the Last Sacrament just before they are ready to die. Catholicism is more and more becoming a dead form, instead of a living doctrine.
14. In spite of all these factors, which we consider favorable for our cause, the Catholic religion is still a vital force. It has been part of the Nation much too long. Its roots are deep. It is tied to the history, the cultural background, the family and social life of every individual. We must remember this.

CONFIDENTIAL